

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

RACHELLE STOWERS,  
Plaintiff,

v.

KAISER PERMANENTE,  
Defendant.

No. 2:22-cv-2121-KJM-KJN PS

ORDER

This action has been assigned to Chief Magistrate Judge Kendall J. Newman. Because at least one party proceeds without the assistance of counsel, the Local Rules dictate the Magistrate Judge will (1) resolve all non-dispositive matters, and (2) conduct all hearings and issue findings and recommendations on any dispositive matters. See Local Rule 302(c)(21).

Should the parties wish to consent to the jurisdiction of the Magistrate Judge for all purposes, including for the entry of final judgment, they may do so using the court's "Consent to Assignment or Request for Reassignment" form. See 28 U.S.C. § 636(c). There is no obligation to consent, and under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 73(b)(1), the judges will not be notified of a party's choice unless all parties have consented.

Because a consent designation assists the court in determining how the action will be administratively processed, the parties are instructed to make their election and notify the Clerk of the Court within 30 days of this order.


1 The parties are reminded of their continuing duty to notify chambers immediately of any  
2 settlement or other disposition. See Local Rule 160.

3 Finally, plaintiff is reminded that while this court liberally construes filings by parties  
4 who are not represented by counsel, pro se parties are still required to comply with the Federal  
5 Rules, the court's Local Rules, and all orders of the court. This includes an obligation to confer  
6 in good faith with defense counsel on the above matters. Under Local Rule 110, a failure to do so  
7 "may be grounds for imposition of any and all sanctions authorized by statute or Rule or within  
8 the inherent power of the Court," including monetary sanctions, the striking of a pleading or  
9 motion, or dismissal of the case.

10 Given that defendants answered the complaint (see ECF No. 5), the case requires  
11 scheduling. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16 and Local Rule 240, IT IS HEREBY  
12 ORDERED:

- 13 1. Within 30 days of this order, the parties shall discuss, in person or by telephone, their  
14 obligations to transmit mandatory disclosures to the other parties, as required by Federal  
15 Rule of Civil Procedure 26. During their meeting, the parties shall discuss whether this  
16 case should be stayed and referred to mediation in the court's Voluntary Dispute  
17 Resolution Program. The parties should also confer on discovery deadlines.
- 18 2. Within 14 days after this conferral, the parties shall file a joint status report with the court  
19 for the entry of a pretrial scheduling order. This report shall address the relevant portions  
20 of Local Rule 240(a) including subsections (1), (2), (4), (8), (11), (12), (16), (17), and  
21 (18); shall include the parties' statement(s) of the case; and may address any other matters  
22 the parties believe are important for scheduling purposes. A hearing shall take place on  
23 Tuesday, May 23, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., by Zoom. The parties will receive instructions from  
24 the court on how to appear as the hearing date approaches.

25 Dated: April 5, 2023

26   
27 KENDALL J. NEWMAN  
28 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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